

362

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****3 COPY

OP IMMED
DE WYE #1620 0821529
O 231512Z MAR 75
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 182//
TO BORG/ADAMS/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY
UNCLAS VIA 86970 WH50557

TOHAK 182

UPI ITEM

BY RICHARD C. GROSS

TEL AVIV(UPI)--THE NATIONAL RADIO SAID TODAY PRESIDENT FORD HAS BLAMED THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT FOR THE DEADLOCK IN MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS AND HAS WARNED OF A POSSIBLE CHANGE IN RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

IN WASHINGTON, WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMEN WERE UNABLE TO IMMEDIATELY CONFIRM THE REPORT.

A GOVERNMENT SOURCE SAID THE MESSAGE WAS DELIVERED TO THE ISRAELI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY, HOWEVER A SPOKESMAN THERE ALSO WAS UNABLE TO CONFIRM THE REPORT.

SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, UNABLE TO SECURE AN INTERIM PEACE SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT, FLEW HOME TO WASHINGTON TODAY.

THE RADIO, AND NEWSPAPER REPORTS, SAID THE MESSAGE, REPORTEDLY INITIATED BY KISSINGER, WAS SENT TO PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN AND IN STRONG LANGUAGE ACCUSED ISRAEL OF "STUBBORNESS" IN ITS INDIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT.

THE MESSAGE WARNED THE ISRAELI POSITION MIGHT BRING ABOUT "A NEW EXAMINATION" OF RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, ISRAEL'S CHIEF ALLY.

IT SAID WASHINGTON SOON WOULD ANNOUNCE TO ISRAEL WHAT THE "NEXT STEP" WOULD BE, THE REPORTS SAID.

*****WHHR COMMENT*****

SDD, SEC FLE

PSN:036166

PAGE 01

TOR:082/15:29Z

DTG:231512Z MAR 75

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****6 COPY

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****S COPY

"ALL THE MINISTERS AND ALL THOSE WHO READ IT WERE SHOCKED AT THE WORDING," THE RADIO SAID OF THE REACTION TO THE MESSAGE.

IN JERUSALEM, THE CABINET CONVENED EARLY TODAY TO DISCUSS THE BREAKDOWN IN THE TALKS AND THE KNESSET(PARLIAMENT) CALLED A SPECIAL SESSION FOR MONDAY TO HEAR THE GOVERNMENT POSITION.

"WE NOW HAVE A VERY CLEAR PICTURE AS A RESULT OF THE NEW SITUATION," DEFENSE MINISTER SHIMON PERES SAID AFTER BRIEFLY EMERGING FROM THE CABINET MEETING. "BUT THE GOVERNMENT HAS THE SITUATION IN HAND.

"ISRAEL WILL BE HEAVILY TESTED, BUT IT HAS THE STAMINA TO SEE IT THROUGH."

ON THE FRONTLINES FACING EGYPT AND SYRIA, THE ARMED FORCES MAINTAINED PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES THAT HAVE BEEN IN EFFECT FOR MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AND MILITARY SOURCES SAID THE ARAB ARMIES WERE BEING WATCHED CLOSELY.

"MILITARY MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN IN ISRAEL IN LIGHT OF THE END OF THE NEGOTIATION WITH EGYPT AND MEASURES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN ORDER TO ANTICIPATE ANY POSSIBILITY OF THE OPENING OF WAR, BOTH ON THE EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN SIDE," THE NEWSPAPER UEDIOTH AHARDNOTH SAID.

UPI 03-23 07:40 AED

0423

PSN:036106

PAGE 02

OF 02

TOR:082/15:29Z

DTG:231512Z MAR 75

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****S COPY